

1893

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THE WARDS

❦ OF ❦

CHRISTENDOM.



ARMENIAN ORPHANS LEARNING SHOEMAKING

Dear Friend:

You have been a contributor to the relief of the survivors of the Armenian massacres, and have thus had the honor of sharing in the only practical effort so far made to undo the awful consequences of Turkish fanaticism and of the selfish and criminal diplomacy of the so-called "Christian and civilized Powers."

You will, therefore, be much interested in this report, containing the latest news from Armenia.

The report shows that, in spite of great obstacles, the relief work has been wonderfully successful, thanks to the untiring efforts of the faithful and experienced American missionaries and British consuls, under whose personal direction the work is carried on.

We regret that contributions to this great cause have very seriously fallen off, though the need is still urgent. But the careful attention of all is directed to one department of the work, at least, which cannot be abandoned for some years to come. We refer to the two thousand orphans whose support you have provided for the first year. They are bright, promising boys and girls, children of virtuous Christian parents, martyred for their faith. They have been most carefully selected by the missionaries, under whose tender care and protection they now are. There they must be kept by the loving gifts of God's children everywhere, whose prayers and help are asked in their behalf.

Send all funds to the authorized Treasurer, BROWN BROS. & Co., Bankers, 59 Wall Street, New York.

Address all general correspondence, requests for information, literature, etc., to

FREDERICK D. GREENE,
Sec'y Nat'l Armenian Relief Committee,
Room 660, 11 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Supreme Reasons for Saving Armenian Orphans.

1. *They have a sacred claim on Christendom*, for they are the offspring of parents massacred for loyalty to the Christian faith and its ideals.

2. *They are worth saving*. They are not beggars nor the product of slums, but come of virtuous, capable stock, the superior thrift and prosperity of their parents being one of the chief reasons why they were plundered.

3. *We share the guilt of their wrongs*, for they are suffering on account of the criminal greed, jealousy, and falsehood of the Powers of Christendom, who not only maintain but aggravate the Turkish hell.

4. *We can make reparation*, in part at least, for our share of the crime by rescuing these absolutely destitute orphan boys and girls of tender age, who, without our aid, are dying like dogs in the gutter, or being driven to enter the homes of Moslem fanatics who orphaned them, and who will teach them to curse the religion for which their parents died.

5. *This work is of vast future significance*, as well as of present need; for in the new day that *must* dawn on Bible lands, these children, if rescued and given Christian training, will be the nucleus of a new and nobler generation.

6. *The rescue of thousands is entirely practicable.*

(a). The orphan work is under the *special protection of foreign Governments*, because it is carried on under the personal supervision of the missionaries and European consuls. (b). In case of further outbreaks, which it is hoped will not occur, *the children would be safe* on the premises of the missionaries where, for the most part, they are cared for.

7. *The expense is trifling.* While a less amount, (as low as one dollar a month in some sections,) has sufficed to barely save their lives, twenty-five dollars, (\$25.00) will now take one of these naked, starving children from the streets, and give it food, clothing, and instruction in a Christian home and school for a whole year. There are upwards of fifty thousand (50,000) orphans, and the money thus far given has provided for only about two thousand, or one in twenty-five for the first year. The greatest care is used in selecting only those who are the most helpless, and at the same time, most promising. Of course this orphan feature of the relief work, at least, must go on a few years longer, for we cannot thrust these tender children back into the fate from which we have snatched them.

8. *It is a great satisfaction and help* in benevolent work to have a *definite object* to plan and work and pray for. The temporary adoption of one or more of these dear orphan children furnishes an ideal object to individuals, to churches, and especially to Sunday-schools, and Young People's Societies. The average annual cost is only \$25 and may be continued

from one to five years. Reports will be sent to all contributors, and those sending \$25 or more will, if they desire, be informed as to the name, sex, and history, as far as possible, of the child thus provided for. The amount need not all be *paid* at once, but *pledges* for the support of orphans, in whole or in part, should be sent in early, that those in charge on the field may be relieved of crushing anxiety and know how to plan their work.

Many who are not able to give a great deal themselves have easily raised enough to support one or more orphans, by a little personal effort among their friends and by circulating literature, which we gladly furnish. Please try to help in this way as well as by your own gifts.

Caution.—Money intended to reach and benefit the Armenian sufferers should in no case be handed to Armenians or others who claim to be lecturing “for the cause,” but should always be sent *direct* to the proper authorized treasurer, who will promptly send a receipt. There is no objection to giving properly accredited individuals an opportunity to speak, or to reasonably compensating *them* for service rendered ; but they should neither ask, nor be asked, to handle the money intended for the sufferers. This caution to the benevolent, but unsuspecting public, is made necessary by numerous complaints already received from pastors and individuals who have been imposed upon, generally through their own carelessness.

All funds should be sent direct to BROWN BROS. & CO., BANKERS, 59 WALL

STREET, NEW YORK CITY, who are the only authorized Treasurers of *The National Armenian Relief Committee*, Hon. D. J. Brewer, Justice U. S. Supreme Court, President. *Executive Committee*: Spencer Trask, *Chairman*, Chauncey M. Depew, Alex. E. Orr, Wm. Hayes Ward, Everett P. Wheeler.

Address all requests for literature (see back of this tract) and general information to Rev. Frederick D. Greene, Sec'y, National Armenian Relief Committee, Room 660, 111 Broadway, New York, N. Y. (Former Address, Bible House, New York.

A PECULIARLY AMERICAN WORK WHICH WE CANNOT ABANDON.

“When a cruel Mussulman mob sought to outrage and slay the native Christians, at Oorfa, they found refuge with Miss Corinna Shattuck. Her little enclosure was packed with the innocent victims of Turkish outrage and Turkish rapacity. She faced the howling mob. To every demand that she should yield and allow them to pass, she interposed the dignity and authority of her womanhood, and the sacredness of treaty rights, secured for her and all our citizens by the Government of her native land. During the massacre, she writes: ‘Our house was full; two hundred and forty found refuge. We began to have refugees Monday and Tuesday, and all our houses and school-room are full of widows and orphans and wounded. How willingly would I have died, could my death have spared parents to their children! I remain here for the present; I could not leave our orphaned people.’

“Nor she alone. A noble army, whose courage and heroism shed undying luster on the American name, have endured hardship as good soldiers of

Jesus Christ. One of them, President Gates of Euphrates College, at Harpoot, writes:

"For three days we have looked death in the face hourly. We have passed by the mouth of the



CORINNA SHATTUCK,
In charge of Orphan Work at Oorfa.

bottomless pit, and the flames came out against us, but no one in our company flinched or faltered. We simply trusted in the Lord and went on. . . . If we abandon the Christians they are lost.'

*"Citizens of the United States, if you abandon Corinna Shattuck and Gates and all our heroes in the Orient, you are lost—lost to honor, lost to duty, despised of man, and criminals before God. May He, in infinite mercy, preserve us from such shame! **

"EVERETT P. WHEELER, ESQ."

WHAT UNPREJUDICED EYE-WITNESSES SAY

of the suffering, and the possibility of relieving it. Miss Barton went to Turkey on a guarantee of the National Armenian Relief Committee, which provided most of the funds for the temporary relief expeditions of the American Red Cross. The work was soon so thoroughly organized by the missionaries and consuls that Miss Barton, after rendering distinguished services, felt free to return.

Clara Barton, Pres. American Red Cross :

"The condition of the people could hardly be worse. Homeless, friendless, bereft, widowed, despoiled, without food, clothes, or shelter; famished, horrified, sick, hopeless, waiting for the death that lingers too long—this is the situation. Need one say more?

"None of us have found any better medium for the dispensation of charitable relief than the faithful missionaries already on the ground, and our Government officers, whose present course bespeaks their active interest."

Leo Bergholz, U. S. Consul, Erzerum, Turkey :

"I want to make an appeal, through you, on behalf of the orphans by the massacres of last year.

*Address before the American Board at Toledo.

A conservative estimate places the number at fifty thousand. Think of it! fifty thousand children—and in most cases without a male relative in the world!—thousands so young and helpless that of necessity they must die, but thousands that can and should be saved! In passing through villages, burned and almost destroyed you meet girls weeping and shrieking, ‘We are defiled! we are defiled! Our fathers and mothers have been killed, and we are become vagrants! Help us or we die!’ Our missionaries in Erzerum, Van, Bitlis and Harpoot can give hundreds of these girls homes where they will be carefully brought up and taught an occupation that will make of them good and useful women, thus saving them from the brutality of man.”

Major Williams, British Vice-Consul at Van,

80 miles south of Mount Ararat, writes in regard to the work for orphans in that place, under charge of Geo. C. Raynolds, M. D.:

“You know that I am heart and soul with you in this business, so allow me to say that I cannot but admire the practical way in which your orphanage is conducted. It is quite a treat in this wretched country to see their happy faces, and to know that while they are being looked after and educated, they are not being cared for in a way that will unfit them for their future life. I consider that the lines in which you are working, both as regards this and as regards the Women’s Industrial Work, are most excellent, and that the good done is incalculable. I sincerely hope you will obtain the necessary funds to carry on your work.”

Prof. J. Rendel Harris, of Cambridge, England,

who, with his wife, has made an extended journey through the scenes of the massacres, reports as follows:

"It is impossible for me to tell you in detail what goes on in this relief work. I only want you to know that it is splendidly managed, and that you need not have any fear that the help given here will go into wrong or doubtful hands. It is all being used to set the people on their feet again; but this is no slight task; for the work of Armenian eradication has been anything but a random frenzy."

RELIEF WORK ACCOMPLISHED.

Half a million dollars from America* and large sums from England and Europe have already been expended in various forms of relief, such as (1) the distribution of food and clothing to the actually starving, (2) sending physicians and medicines to regions smitten with pestilence, (3) establishing industrial bureaus where the people gladly make cloth and clothing from raw cotton and wool which is furnished them, (4) providing tools for artisans, and implements and cattle for farmers, (5) aid in rebuilding their ruined homes, (6) establishing orphanages, (7) redeeming girls from the hands of Moslems who had carried them captive. By these means tens of thousands have been saved from death by starvation or exposure, and partially aided to get on their feet. At least two hundred thousand have been helped.

The National Armenian Relief Committee is at present practically the only agency con-

* In addition to \$240,820.25 raised directly by the Nat'l Armenian Relief Committee, other large sums have been given in America through the following channels: American Board of Missions, \$105,167.68; *The Christian Herald*, \$62,635.57; Boston Relief Committee, \$37,555.79; *The Congregationalist*, \$24,540.62. The Chicago Committee raised \$16,487.98.

tinuing the work of raising money, temporary local committees and newspaper funds having ceased.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

OF THE

NATIONAL ARMENIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE,

Covering a year and a half, to May 22, 1897.

RECEIPTS.

Contributions from all sources.....	\$240,820.25
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DISBURSEMENTS.

For Relief of the Sufferers, through

Amer. Nat'l Red Cross.....	\$ 79,302.20
Clara Barton, Pres.	

Internat. Com., Constantinople.....	118,962.59
W. W. Peet, Treas.	

Special remittances at donors' request	15,344.96
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Relief funds on hand.....	7,946.53
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221,556.28

For Expenses :

Literature, (circular letters, leaflets, tracts, etc., of which over one million copies have been distributed).....	6,865.01
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Postage and express (for distribution of literature and correspondence) ..	2,731.46
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Meeting expenses (throughout the country, and travelling).....	4,815.70
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Office, (salaries, rent and supplies)....	4,851.80
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Total expenses (only 8 per cent. of amount raised).....	
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19,263.97

\$240,820.25

I have examined the accounts and vouchers of the Nat'l Armen. Relief Committee, and find them to be correct and accurate.

(Signed) M. C. MIRICK,
Fellow Am. Assoc. Public Accountants.

New York, May 24, 1897.

THE FUTURE PROBLEM, AND METHODS OF MEETING IT.

While general relief must be continued for some time, a new and special problem has arisen—the saving of orphans.

The desperate condition of these children having been brought to the attention of the National Armenian Relief Committee, a special effort in their behalf was begun in November, 1896. The committee is glad to report that in addition to about \$180,000.00 for general relief it has been able to forward to Armenia \$36,520.00 for special orphan work. The expenditure of these funds is intrusted to an International Committee of prominent and trustworthy gentlemen in Constantinople, under the chairmanship of the British Ambassador. This committee receives frequent and detailed financial reports from the missionaries and consuls who have the immediate supervision of relief work throughout the interior. *The salaries of the missionaries and consuls being otherwise provided, no charge is made for their invaluable services to the Relief fund, which thus goes directly to the sufferers.* In acknowledging the receipt of a recent remittance, Mr. W. W. Peet, Treasurer of the American Missions in Turkey, and of the International Relief Committee, writes as follows:

“CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 2, 1897.

“TO MR. SPENCER TRASK,

“Chairman Nat’l Armenian Relief Com.

“At a meeting of the International Relief Committee, at which your letter of January 6th was read,

a division of your last remittance of Seven Thousand Pounds Sterling, (nearly \$35,000.00), was made as per the inclosed statement, and, as is usual, this appropriation has been submitted to His Excellency, Sir Philip Currie, the British Ambassador, for his approval. This approval has been given.

"It is, of course, expected that the orphan work will fall to the American missionaries to prosecute in the main, still the fact that the International Committee is giving its support secures the help of the British Consular service at the outset, when the difficulties are greatest. It will also make the orphanages, in a measure, *a work which the Consular service will feel bound to protect in after years*, a point of no small consideration.

"We have made a wide-spread distribution of your remittances, but have carefully adjusted the amounts given to each locality in view of the needs of the field, the facilities for attending to the work, and the amount of prior grants.

"We are glad to note that you contemplate a continuance of the gifts for the support of these children. Manifestly they cannot be dropped at the end of the first year, for in such an event their last state would be far worse than their first."

"W. W. PEET."

In acknowledging our last remittance of \$10,000, Mr. Peet writes:

"CONSTANTINOPLE, May 6, 1897.

"General relief funds are very much needed now. The situation here is not improved. There is no foundation yet on which to build again the shattered social fabric. We have taken the people thus far; we cannot leave them. To give up our efforts on their behalf at this time means to abandon them to the fate from which we have thus far kept them."

In addition to large amounts for general relief, we have sent the following amounts for the special work of saving Armenian orphans, which is being carried on in and from the centers mentioned, and under the charge of the American missionaries whose names are given:

Aintab.....	S. C. Sanders.....	\$ 660.00
*Bitlis	Royal M. Cole.....	6,380.00
Broussa	Theo. A. Baldwin.....	660.00
Erzerum.....	W. N. Chambers.....	2,992.00
Hadjin	Mrs. J. L. Coffing.....	660.00
Harpoot, Arabkir..	H. N. Barnum.....	7,920.00
Marash.....	Mrs. Clara Hamlin Lee.	2,112.00
Mardin, Diarbekir.	A. N. Andrus.....	1,540.00
Marsovan	Geo. E. White.....	2,596.00
Mossul.....	A. N. Ainslie.....	660.00
Oorfa	Miss Corinna Shattuck.	660.00
Sivas, Gurun.....	H. T. Perry.....	880.00
Van	Geo. C. Reynolds, M.D.	8,800.00

Total sent for orphans to date..... \$36,520.00

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

It is impossible to print all the enthusiastic and grateful reports which we are receiving from the score of Relief Centers throughout the devastated region, but the following extracts will give a clear and vivid idea of the great needs and success of this most worthy charity.

BITLIS, EASTERN TURKEY.

“Mountains and midwinter snows have delayed launching the orphanage enterprise, but a good beginning has been made. We already have under

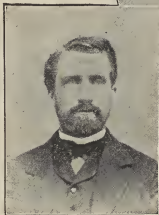
* Bitlis and Van are near together in adjoining provinces, and have been considered as practically one field in our remittances of funds.

our own roofs 27 boys and 57 girls, bright-looking children indeed. We are taking in charge many others who can be placed in private families and attend ward schools, and plan to open two 'homes' for fifty each in distant parts of the city. Two branch orphanages will also be opened in other centers of our field, one at Moush.

"Great change takes place in the poor little neglected ones, as plenty of soap and vigorous scrubbing follow their matriculation, and they take on a fair complement of new garments.

"Last Sunday, on my inspection, I could hardly pick out of the crowd Makroohi (Neat) and Yester (Esther), who were the first we took in, for no longer were they in those squalid old rags, with unkempt hair and scurvy hands. Many of the orphan waifs have not even a brother or sister left.

"We make special arrangements for children under six years of age. Boys over thirteen are put to trades, while the large girls will soon be thought of for marriage in a country so precocious as this in such matters.



REV. R. M. COLE
AND WIFE.

In charge of Relief Work at
Bitlis.



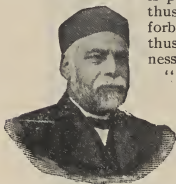
"We have lists of 1500 orphans in Bitlis and ten near villages. In the General Relief, in which the British Consul, Mr. Hampson, greatly helped, we have aided 100 villages, about 2,000 families, and 16,000 souls, while in Bitlis city we have assisted 9,413 persons. Go up and down this whole plundered province, ask where you will, and you will find grateful recognition of this God-sent relief.

"ROYAL M. COLE."

OORFA, CENTRAL TURKEY.

"This city, which was large and prosperous, suffered terribly through two massacres, in which the British Consul, Mr. Fitzmaurice, estimates that upwards of 8,000 were slain. Three thousand perished horribly by sword and fire in the great stone church where they had taken refuge.*

"Our needs will not quickly end. We sometimes fear the zeal will abate abroad before the suffering is past; but why should we thus fear when 'anxiety' is forbidden us, and when we are thus carried by loving kindness of unknown friends.



REV. HAGOP ABOUHAYATIAN,
Armenian Pastor at Oorfa,
Martyred by Turks, Decem-
ber 27, 1896.

"There is a very peculiar sense of honor shown by most in the use of aid given which, I think, is due to three causes: First, hearts have been *melted* in the fire, not *hardened*; second, we have, from the first, had excellent men on our committee, intent upon *just dealing*, and not yielding to mere entreaty; third, our people in Oorfa have not been

*See page 6 of this tract.

harmed by *over-help*, and not had *money* put into their hands. They seem most grateful.

"Our embroidery women now number more than 200. It is a help in holding their thoughts, as well as giving means of living. We have this day (our number increasing) 152 under our care in the three departments of orphanage. Our aid to some 2,500 widows and orphans still continues. Your continued prayers we entreat.

"CORINNA SHATTUCK."

MARASH, CENTRAL TURKEY.

"We send most hearty thanks for \$660.00, just received from the National Armenian Relief Committee for orphans. There are about 3,000 fatherless children in our field, in which is the famous town of Zeitoun, of which 245 have thus far been provided for in various ways. I have 50 boys and 50 girls now under my own care. We give the children plain clothing and food, but of course they must have enough to grow well and strong. Many of them are so weakened by want and exposure as to have very little resisting power. The clothing we furnish is of the simplest—two sets of cotton underclothes, a long striped cotton gown, two pairs of stockings, shoes, and a warm jacket. We plan that every boy shall learn a trade. The lowest they can be cared for is \$22 a year each.

"(MRS.) CLARA HAMLIN LEE."

HARPOOT, EASTERN TURKEY.

This city was the center of the most prosperous and densely populated section of Armenia. It suffered most terribly from the massacres. The National Armenian Relief Committee has sent there, besides large

amounts for general relief, about \$8,000.00 for orphan work. Half of this has been given by Christian Endeavor Societies, Epworth Leagues, Baptist Unions, and similar organizations to support their special orphan work at this center, which is under the care of Dr. and Mrs. Barnum and their daughter.

“The massacres removed thousands of fathers. Many of them were in comfortable circumstances, but the looting and burning of houses left their families destitute. The forlorn condition of this multitude of widows and orphans has deeply impressed us, but the means hitherto placed at our disposal barely sufficed to keep them alive.

“The first effort made here for orphans was in Malatia, by Mrs. Rendel Harris, of Cambridge, England, who provided the money to support forty for one year.

“Our method is, wherever there is a reliable Christian community, to have the orphans placed in families and go to school. The average cost here for each, on the most economical basis, is thirty piastres, or a dollar and a half, a month.

“I have often wished that we could send you a picture of some of these orphaned children as they have come to us in their filthy, tattered garments, with unkempt hair—and then another picture of them after they have been returned from the bath, dressed in their clean, new clothes. The transformation is often so great that one can scarcely recognize them.

“Every child is examined separately, and some have to be refused. It is quite touching to see the anxiety while their cases are under examination. Sometimes the tears will come in spite of their efforts to restrain them.

“It is a great joy to see the happy faces of the children in the different Homes. One little girl



TYPICAL ARMENIAN ORPHANS RESCUED FROM PERISHING, OR
ENFORCED MOHAMMEDANISM.

had been rescued, after several efforts, from a Turkish family where she had been kept since the massacre, and she had forgotten how to speak Armenian, though she understood what was said to her. A few weeks after she came to the Home we received a poor girl who, with her step-grandmother, was wandering about, sleeping in stables, or wherever they could find a place, and begging their daily bread. It was cold, but this girl had on only two borrowed cotton garments, and her feet were bare. Great was the joy of these two girls when they met in the Girls' Home that evening, for they were step-sisters.

"The other day four children appeared at the door from a village a few hours distant. Their mother had been killed and their father died. The oldest girl, thirteen or fourteen years of age, had bravely struggled to keep the children together, and provide for them, but in vain. We put the two girls and their little four-year-old brother in one of the Girls' Homes, and the other brother in the Boys' Home. As we were fitting out the children with clothes one of them said to the others with a smile, 'Oh, what beautiful things!'

"In one of the Homes is a little boy five or six years of age, rescued the other day with much difficulty from the Turks. He, too, had forgotten his Armenian, and his friends, besides. He cried lustily when brought to our house. His older brother, Muggerditch, also rescued from Turks, was already in the Home, laid up with a broken bone; but little Krikore would have nothing to say to him, but threw himself on the floor and screamed. We have no playthings left since the looting of our houses, but a picture-book, a few empty spools, and some large acorn-cups, with candy and raisins to put in them, were utilized, and the two boys were soon happy together.

"We have now rented four good-sized houses in

the city, and each is under the care of a Christian family, and each is a happy home. The whole number of orphans under our care in Harpoot and in other towns and villages of this field is about seven hundred.

"The receiving and providing for so many children is a great care, but we feel that we are not alone in this work. We have noble helpers in other lands, who not only give of their money, without which nothing could be done, but who also give time, thought, and prayer for this object.

"(MRS.) MARY E. BARNUM."

MARSOVAN, WESTERN TURKEY.

"Your favor of January 8th, with Ltq. 150.00 (\$660.00) for use in Marsovan for orphans, was received with a chorus of gratitude.

"About 800 were made orphans in our field by the events of a year ago. We already have carefully selected thirty-six girls, and six boys, and are planning for fifty of each sex. The children are as merry, interesting a group as one could wish to see; so changed since they came!

"The people gladly commit their children to us. The Gregorian priests of the city are now making a list of the ones they wish to recommend to us. The boys hitherto have been taught free of charge by our advanced pupils. Tradesmen favor the purchases made for the orphans. Considerable collections of clothing, etc., and some money have been given. The college students have volunteered to give from their own food. Mrs. Tracy gives her main effort to this new service.

"Connected with our Anatolia College is an Industrial Department, the chief feature of which is a carpenter's shop. We are also furnishing work to sixty persons, as a relief measure, in weaving.

We have in mind to organize some such work as may be suited to the years of the children.

“Let me say as to expense that the children could be ‘herded’ or perhaps ‘boarded out’ for less, but I think \$22 per year will not seem great as an estimate for providing a plain but comfortable home, plain but neat clothing, and suitable instruction and care.

“G. E. WHITE.”

VAN, EASTERN TURKEY.

Dr. G. C. Reynolds, who was associated with Dr. Grace Kimball in relief work in Van, and who is continuing it, writes from that city, under date of February 19th, 1897, as follows:

“The number of orphans received up to the present time is one hundred and twenty-eight boys and sixty-four girls; only those being accepted who are very needy and very promising. The limit which we can accommodate on our own premises is two hundred and fifty, which will be only about one in thirty of the really destitute orphans in this province. Others we are placing in families. *Nearly all should remain three years, and many, five years, at least. To turn these dear children adrift at the end of one year would be almost as cruel as the actions of those who made them orphans.*

“It is touching to hear the orphans in their evening prayers often ask that the poor children still wandering about the streets may be received, as they have been, to this sheltering care. Would it not be a great satisfaction and privilege to any who shall see these lines to answer this prayer by providing for one of the Lord’s little ones?

“If any who are willing to take children will write, stating whether they prefer boys or girls, and for how many years they will undertake their sup-

port at \$25.00 a year, I shall be happy to write them of the orphan selected, giving name, circumstances and periodical information as to its welfare.

"The children give half the day to study and the other half to learning a trade, tailoring, shoe-making, or weaving, and, when the weather shall permit, gardening.



DR. G. C. RAYNOLDS AND WIFE.
In charge of Relief Work at Van.

"This work, I am happy to say, has the full sympathy and hearty support of the Armenians of the Old Church, from their official head down.

"G. C. RAYNOLDS."

ERZERUM, EASTERN TURKEY.

"We have considerable room in the mission buildings and have accepted sixty orphans of which twenty-four are boys. The change from dirt and rags to cleanliness and new clothes makes a marvelous transformation in these children. There are about three thousand orphans in Erzerum province. The condition of all is sad in the extreme. The cold weather and mountainous country, and above all, lack of funds, have hindered the gathering of orphans into refuges. The estimate of one dollar

a month for each child is far too low, the cost being nearer \$2.50. We ought to take at least 200 of these 3,000 orphans. The children, having been once received, become our wards for at least five years. It is a benevolence of prime present importance and of far-reaching influence. We look in confidence to our friends that this work, undertaken with so much encouragement, may be carried on to completion.

W. N. CHAMBERS."

BARDEZAG, WESTERN TURKEY.

"The sad condition of Constantinople boys whose fathers had perished in the recent disturbances, and for whom no adequate local provision can be made, led to the establishment, Feb. 12, 1897, in Bardezag, 60 miles distant, of an orphanage for the support, education, and industrial training of such orphans. It is our purpose to care for 75 boys.

"To help us save and train for future usefulness these boys, whom the strange dealings of Divine Providence have left as a sacred charge to Christian people, we solicit your contributions in the name of Him who committed the widow and the orphan to the care of His faithful followers.

"ROBERT CHAMBERS."

BROUSA, WESTERN TURKEY.

"The West Brousa Orphanage, 80 miles from Constantinople, was opened for destitute Armenian orphan girls, Jan. 13, 1897. The two large and convenient buildings, accommodating one hundred, belong to the American Mission, which was very glad to loan them, partly furnished and rent free.

"The Administration believes that the wisest economy demands that something more should be done for these orphans than simply to keep them from starving. It proposes to give them an education, and to teach them plain sewing, the use of

sewing and knitting machines, and similar industries, so that they will grow up to be useful women, able to support themselves.

“The institution is under the charge of the American Mission, and the immediate supervision of the Home is in the hands of an experienced native pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. D. L. Garabedian. The estimated expense for each orphan, including educational advantages, is \$40.00 a year. *It will be especially gratifying if individuals or committees will pledge the support of a number of orphans for a series of years, and to such the names and photographs of the orphans assigned will be sent.*

“THEO. A. BALDWIN.”

Similar reports have also been received from Rev. A. N. Andrus, Mardin; Mrs. J. L. Coffing, Hadjin; and Rev. H. T. Perry, Sivas, and others.

THE ARMENIANS

are a distinct and very ancient Christian people, with a language of their own, and belong to the best type of the Caucasian race. Their Church is independent of both the Greek and Latin, and claims an apostolic origin. Centuries of oppression by heathen and later by Mohammedan invaders have made them industrious, peace-loving and deeply religious. Their history is a brave and simple record written with the tears of the saints and the blood of martyrs. From a powerful ancient nation of perhaps 12,000,000 it has been reduced to 3,500,000, of which only about 2,000,000 survive in Asiatic Turkey, the rest being in Russia, Persia and other lands. Few realize that there are

nearly 10,000 in the United States, for they are good citizens, minding their business and do not indulge in fighting or drinking as other foreigners do. Since the massacres, these men have sent from their small earnings \$160,000.00 to their stricken families in Armenia.

Mrs. Isabella Bird Bishop, the well-known English traveler and author, in a calm estimate before the massacres began, wrote: "It is not possible to deny that they are the most capable, energetic, enterprising, and pushing race in Western Asia, physically superior, and intellectually acute, *and above all they are a race which can be raised in all respects to our own level, neither religion, color, customs, nor inferiority in intellect or force constituting any barrier between us.*"

THE EXPLANATION OF THE MASSACRES

is simply that the Armenians have incurred the fanatical wrath of the Turkish Government, first, by their own progressive spirit and consequent prosperity; second, by their adherence to their ancient faith, even in the hour of cruel martyrdom; and, third, by the half-hearted demands of the Powers for the execution of just reforms in their behalf, which for twenty years have been guaranteed by the Berlin Treaty.

A few individual Armenians, seeing that their race, betrayed and abandoned by Europe, is already marked for extermination, have been tempted to resort to desperate efforts, as signals of distress, to compel for-

eign intervention, in which the only possibility of reform lies. All talk of Armenian "Revolution"—in the proper meaning of the word—is an infamous imposition of the Turkish Government invented to excuse and conceal its own barbarous excesses. The Armenians are in a hopeless minority, scattered all over Turkey, stripped of every weapon, and utterly crushed and paralyzed by terror. They are peaceable merchants, artisans and agriculturists, for centuries deprived of arms and entirely lacking organization or fighting instincts, except in isolated cases. The heroic defense of Zeitoun, where the Armenian mountaineers for five months successfully withstood a besieging army of Turkish regulars that outnumbered them more than twenty to one, deserves to be classed with Thermopylæ or Bunker Hill, and shows that the highest valor and manhood is latent in Armenian blood.

TURKEY'S MASSACRE ACCOUNT

of helpless, inoffensive subjects, during only the lifetime of many now living, shows that *every* Christian race and locality has in turn been scourged and "brought low," as the Koran requires. The account is as follows :

DATE.	RACE.	NUMBER MASSACRED.
1822,	Greeks,	50,000
1850,	Nestorians,	10,000
1860,	Syrians,	11,000
1876,	Bulgarians,	15,000
1894-6,	Armenians	85,000
Total massacred in 75 years,		171,000

The table makes no account of massacres with less than ten thousand victims, nor of the hundreds who are more quietly put out of the way in ordinary times. One hundred thousand have been slaughtered under the present Sultan, Abd-ul-Hamid II., whose Armenian victims alone exceed all who perished in the ten great persecutions of the early Christians under the heathen emperors of Rome.

A region 500 miles long and 300 wide (large as New England, New York and Pennsylvania), with hundreds of villages and cities, has been given over to murder, rape and robbery.

Mr. Gladstone, in his eloquent letter on the Eastern question, made reference to a work entitled "*Armenia and Europe, an Indictment*," by Dr. J. Lepsius, of the University of Berlin. Dr. Lepsius is a German professor who has thoroughly investigated the situation, and gathered his facts patiently and methodically. His summary is as follows:

Killed in the massacres, about 85,000.

Towns and villages laid waste, about 2,500.

Churches and convents destroyed, 568.

Forced to adopt the Mohammedan faith, 559 villages, with all their surviving inhabitants and hundreds of families in the towns.

Churches turned into mosques, 282.

Number of those without means of subsistence, about 500,000.

These figures only give the extent of our statistical information. A full statement of the facts would be much more terrible.

DUTY OF THE UNITED STATES.

This is not simply an affair of diplomats, but concerns every member of society. It is the duty of all to assist in giving effect to a righteous public sentiment on this international crime, especially where our own Government is concerned. *So far from having done anything in the interests of common humanity, the United States has allowed a year and a half to pass without securing a cent of indemnity or the arrest of a single offender in connection with the Harpoot and Marash outrages, where even fifteen honored American missionaries had their homes bombarded and plundered and destroyed by the Turkish soldiers and mob, at a loss of \$100,000 and great personal peril and insult.*

THANKS.

The special thanks of the Committee are due to Miss Frances E. Willard and the W. C. T. U.; to Mrs. Margaret Bottome, and the King's Daughters, to the officers and members of the Christian Endeavor Society, to Rev. B. Fay Mills, Rev. Josiah Strong, D. D., Secretary of the Evangelical Alliance, and many others, without whose hearty co-operation this great and sacred work could not have reached its grand development.

The Committee also desires to record its appreciation of the great assistance in its work, rendered by the Misses Mary and Margaret W. Leitch, whose suggestions and services in organization and in addressing meetings have always been given most cheerfully, and entirely without compensation.

The illustrations in this tract are kindly furnished by *The Christian Herald*.

LITERATURE

To be ordered of Rev. F. D. Greene, Sec'y, Nat'l Armenian Relief Com., Room 660, 11 Broadway, New York, N. Y.
(Former address, Bible House, New York.)

The Rule of the Turk, by Rev. F. D. Greene, M.A., for many years resident in Turkey. With autograph preface by Gladstone, map, 20 illustrations. 200 pages, 12mo. 21st thousand. Clear, compact, complete—much general historic and descriptive matter, together with the story of the massacres. Published by Putnam's Sons at 40 cents. Furnished by National Armenian Relief Committee for 25 cents in stamps. To pastors, committees, and contributors of \$5.00 or more, free on request.

Letters from Armenia, by Prof. and Mrs. J. Rendel Harris, of Cambridge, England, who have made extended journeys and careful personal investigations throughout the massacred regions. A calm, clear, vivid and obviously truthful account of events and of the present condition of the country. Map and illustrations, 12mo, cloth. Published by Fleming H. Revell, New York, at \$1.25. Sent by the Relief Committee on receipt of \$1.00.

Armenian Poems, finely rendered into English verse by Alice Stone Blackwell. Cloth, \$1.25. Roberts Bros., Publishers, Boston.

America's Relief Expedition to Asia Minor under the Red Cross. By Clara Barton, President. Illustrated. Price, 30 cents.

TRACTS FREE ON APPLICATION.

The Rights of American Citizens in Turkey, by Everett P. Wheeler, Esq.

Our Heroes in the Orient. Brave words from the American missionaries, written in the midst of massacre.

The Wards of Christendom. Report of the Relief Work, especially for orphans.

The Armenian Question. A powerful and thrilling address by Lyman Abbott.

Collecting Cards and Dollar Wheels, which make it a pleasure for young people and Sunday-school scholars to help the Armenian orphans.